

V. 18 May 76

I 2

NORTH AFRICA

[Answer] Our two delegations have in fact discussed problems connected with cooperation between Algeria and France. They restated the two parties' desire for the development of cooperation founded on mutual interest, cooperation which could become exemplary for various objective reasons.

They also discussed the economic and political reasons for an undoubted deterioration of the situation at a time when, following the French president's visit to Algeria, everything seemed to foreshadow a remarkable development of cooperation.

With reference to this they ascertained that their views are concordant and they emphasized their belief that the consolidation of relations between the FLN and the PCF is likely to encourage the development of cooperation and friendship between the two peoples.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI DISCUSSES COMMUNISM, RELIGION

FBIS-MEA-76-97

Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 May 76 JN

[Text] British television channel 2 has shown an interview with Revolution Command Council Chairman Brother Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi; British journalist (Richard Carshug) interviewed the brother colonel. The brother colonel answered several questions in this interview dealing with national, religious, political, and social issues.

The brother colonel affirmed that religion and nationalism are the prime motivating factors in history. The economic factor and other factors are of secondary importance. He pointed out that wars and disputes have broken out over national and religious issues.

The brother colonel affirmed his rejection of communism if it means a state monopoly of property. He said: We reject monopolies, whether by the state or by capitalism. If, philosophically, communism means atheism, then we reject this atheism because we believe in God.

The brother colonel also affirmed his rejection of capitalism because it means the monopoly of property by capitalists, including companies. He said: We reject this because the socialism we believe in raises the slogan of partners and not the hired. In political practice, we find that those who own capital dominate the policies of society. This is contradictory to democracy, which means that power should be for all of the people.

Asked a question about Islam and its universality, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi affirmed that Islam is an international religion and that the Koran addresses people everywhere and is not just for the Arabs alone. He said that Islam calls for belief in the one God.

The brother colonel said that he stands on the side of the faithful in the international struggle, whether they are Moslems or Christians. He said that his attack on the policies of the Western states is due to their imperialist policies, and is not based on their Christian religion. He pointed out that Islam is close to Christianity because both believe in the one God.

V. 18 May 76

I 3

NORTH AFRICA

The brother colonel affirmed to the British journalist the Libyan Arab Republic's rejection of imperialism regardless of its source.

The British journalist asked the brother colonel about his concept of nationalism. In this connection, the brother colonel pointed out that the nation is [words indistinct] of civilization forming a common culture and giving birth to a joint future and fate and supreme interests for an entire people.

When the British journalist asked the brother colonel about Jewish nationalism, he said: We believe, in accordance with the Third World theory, that history is moved by national and religious struggle. [words indistinct] all nationalities and religions should be respected. However, the so-called Jewish nationalism is an aggressive movement which seeks to go beyond its boundaries and attack all nations and nationalities. Therefore, we are against it.

In the course of his comments about so-called Jewish nationalism, Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi affirmed that the entity based on repression and aggression should be toppled and that the people who were expelled from Palestine must return to their homeland--Palestine.

In reply to a question about the future of the Jews who are living now in Palestine, the colonel explained that the Jews who came from other countries must return to those countries, and those who are from Palestine must stay on in Palestine.

In reply to another question on Arab unity, the brother colonel said: There are obstacles in the way of unity. If it were not for these obstacles, we would achieve unity much faster. He affirmed that unity is as necessary for the Arabs as it is for any other nation. The colonel pointed out the reasons for the failure of the efforts at unity which the IAR has made with certain Arab countries. He said he believed that the failure to achieve unity was due to regional vestiges which have accumulated throughout history and left separatist tendencies in the minds of traditional politicians. Colonel al-Qadhdhafi stated that President as-Sadat let Egypt down by signing the Sinai agreement despite the fact that he did not believe in this agreement.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi spoke about the IAR's support for the world liberation movement. He said: Our stand is clear and we support the struggle for liberation. He added: Our support for the Irish people stems from our belief that they are struggling for independence from Britain. He added that if Ireland were independent, British soldiers would not be present in Northern Ireland to colonize part of it. He said that the conflict in Ireland is an embodiment of the religious and national disputes which are the prime motivating factors in history.

Speaking about his impressions of the British, Al-Qadhdhafi expressed his admiration for the British people who live in the countryside. He said that these British people are good and [words indistinct] and that amity and respect prevail among the members of the family. In the cities, degeneration and disintegration prevail among the people.

The British journalist said at the end of the interview that he had noticed that the masses were enthusiastic about Brother Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi. He asked: Isn't there a danger that you will become a leader in this country who is adored as a hero? The brother colonel replied by saying: Our patriotic democratic experiment will save us from this danger.